

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the withdrawal of a significant number of rejections previously made. The only remaining rejections are for obviousness-type double-patenting applied to claims 12 and 19-22 and under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as to claims 7 and 18.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is obviated by the cancellation of claims 7 and 18.

While applicants still disagree with the conclusion that claims 12 and 19-22 should be rejected as obviousness-type double-patenting over claims 1-15 of U.S. 6,531,299, in order to expedite prosecution, a terminal disclaimer with respect to this patent is enclosed.

It is believed that these measures overcome all outstanding bases for rejection and passage of claims 1-6, 8-17 and 19-22 to issue is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 300622000205.

Respectfully submitted,

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